

Monique Coleman

Actress, Entrepreneur, and Philanthropist



Active in the arts as a teen, Orangeburg native Monique Coleman wrote, produced, directed and starred in her own show at fifteen, followed by an appearance in the Family Channel movie presentation, "The Ditchdigger's Daughters," for which she received a Young Artist Award nomination.

Thus began her prolific career as a performing artist with award-winning roles in television shows and films, and as an online talk show host.

She's best known as the brainy best friend "Taylor McKessie" on the mega hit "High School Musical" movies and for placing 4th on Season 3 of ABC's Dancing with the Stars. Coleman has also played roles in the Hallmark Television movie, "The Reading Room," which garnered a 2006 Camie Award; "Boston Public," "Veronica Mars," "Bones," and PBS' "The Electric Company." She was also the voice of "Fontasia" in the animated series "Cleveland" on the Fox network. Her artistic accomplishments led to other awards such as the NAACP 2010 Legacy Award, and recognition from Teen Choice, and Billboard.

Coleman recently has parlayed her own star-powered youth into a Mo'vement to inspire this generation. Coleman is the Founder, CEO, and executive producer of "GimmeMo.com," an online talk show dedicated to empowering young people by raising awareness of pressing issues facing youth and encouraging their civic engagement. The show serves as a platform for youth to participate in open discussions about teen homelessness, obesity, environmental issues, body image, sex, drugs and other compelling issues.

She also was named the first UN Youth Champion in 2010 by the United Nations for the International Year of the Youth, the first person to receive the award. She traveled the world for the first 6 months of 2011 on behalf of the United Nations. Traveling to 24 countries, she met with government officials, thousands of youth, and volunteered with organizations such as UNICEF, UNHCR, and small local youth led organizations. The DePaul University alumna credits her mother, Roz Coleman, as her biggest inspiration.



South Carolina AFRICAN AMERICAN

HISTORY CALENDAR

Presented by  at&t

February

Learn more about the people featured in this calendar at www.scafricanamerican.com

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Langston Hughes was born in 1902	2 GROUNDHOG DAY Ernest E. Just, biologist, received the Spingarn Medal for pioneering research on fertilization and cell division, 1914	3 Geraldine McCullough won the Widener Gold Medal for Sculpture in 1965	4 Rosa Parks was born in 1913
5 Henry "Hank" Aaron, the home run king of major league baseball, was born in 1934	6 Jonathan Jasper Wright elected to South Carolina Supreme Court in 1870	7 Eubie Blake, pianist, was born in 1883	8 Oprah Winfrey became the first African American woman to host a nationally syndicated talk show in 1986	9 In 1995 Bernard Harris became the first African American astronaut to take a spacewalk	10 Roberta Flack, singer, was born in 1940	11 Clifford Alexander, Jr., became the first African American Secretary of the Army in 1977
12 Abraham Lincoln was born in 1809 Congress enacted the first fugitive slave law in 1793	13 Joseph L. Searles became the first African American member of the New York Stock Exchange, 1970	14 VALENTINE'S DAY Frederick Douglass was born in 1817	15 Henry Lewis was named director of the New Jersey Symphony in 1968	16 Joe Frazier became World Heavyweight Boxing Champion by a knockout in 1970	17 Michael Jordan, basketball player, born in 1963	18 Author Toni Morrison (born Chloe Anthony Wofford) was born in 1931
19 William "Smokey" Robinson was born in 1940	20 PRESIDENTS' DAY Frederick Douglass died in 1895	21 MARDI GRAS Malcolm X was assassinated in 1965	22 ASH WEDNESDAY George Washington was born in 1732 Julius Winfield "Dr. J" Erving was born in 1950	23 W.E.B. DuBois born in 1868	24 In 1864, Rebecca Lee became the first African American woman to receive an M.D. degree	25 Cassius Clay (Muhammad Ali) won World Heavyweight crown in 1964
26 Singer "Fats" Domino was born in 1928	27 Marian Anderson, opera singer, was born in 1902	28 Hattie McDaniel became the first African American to win an Oscar for her role as Mammy in <i>Gone With The Wind</i> in 1940	29 LEAP DAY Sculptor August Savage was born in 1892			